

REMARKS

At the time the current Final Office Action was mailed, claims 1-40 were pending. The Examiner rejected claims 1-10, 15-16, 25-26, 29-30, 32-33, and 37-40. The Examiner allowed claims 11-14 and objected to claims 17-24, 27-28, 31, and 34-36. By this response, Applicants have amended claims 17-19, 27, 31, and 34. Claims 1-10, 15-16, 25-26, 29-30, 32-33, and 37-40 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 11-14, 17-24, 27-28, 31, and 34-36 are currently pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Non-Final Action, the Examiner allowed claims 11-14 and indicated that claims 17-24, 27-28, 31, and 34-36 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the recitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claim 17 has been amended to include the recitations of claims 8 and 10 and claim 18 17 has been amended to include the recitations of claims 8 and 15. Additionally, claim 19 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 1. Furthermore, claim 27 has been amended to include the recitations of claims 25 and 26 and claim 31 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 25. Finally, claim 34 has been amended to include the recitations of claim 33. As such, claims 11-14, 17-24, 27-28, 31, and 34-36 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

While the Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejections set forth in the Non-Final Office Action, the Applicants have chosen to place the application in condition for allowance. As such, claims 1-10, 15-16, 25-26, 29-30, 32-33, and 37-40 have been canceled. The Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims in a continuation application.

Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and an indication of allowability is earnestly solicited. However, if the Examiner wishes to resolve any other issues by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Authorization for Extensions of Time and Payment of Fees

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicants hereby provide a general authorization to treat this and any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request thereof. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fee of \$220.00 for additional claims, and any additional fees which may be required, to the credit card provided during electronic filing. However, if the credit card information is missing, if the amount is insufficient, or if the amount is unable to be charged to the credit card for any other reason, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1315; Order No. TYHC:0128/FLE (P0402S-01A).

Respectfully submitted,

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